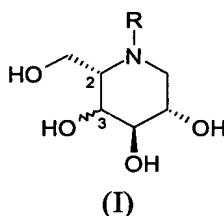


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ~~prodrug~~ ester thereof:



wherein

R is a  $C_{1-16}$  straight or branched-chain alkyl, optionally substituted by  $C_{3-7}$ cycloalkyl, ~~and optionally interrupted by O the oxygen being separated from the ring nitrogen by at least two carbon atoms, or  $C_{1-10}$  alkylaryl where aryl is phenyl, pyridyl, thienyl or furyl wherein phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from F, Cl, Br,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$ ,  $OR^+$ , and  $C_{1-6}$  straight or branched chain alkyl; and~~

~~$R^+$  is hydrogen, or  $C_{1-6}$  straight or branched chain alkyl;~~

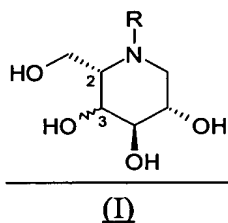
provided that the compound is not:

- 3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-butyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);
- 3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-phenylmethyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);
- 3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-nonyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3S,4R,5S);
- 3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-dodecyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S); or
- 3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-(1-phenyl)ethyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S).

2. (original) A compound as defined in claim 1 wherein the hydroxyl group at position 3 is in the R configuration.
3. (canceled)
4. (original) A compound as defined in claim 3 wherein R is C<sub>3-10</sub> straight chain alkyl.
5. (currently amended) A compound selected from the group consisting of:  
3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-propyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S)  
3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-pentyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S)  
3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-heptyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S)  
3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-butyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3S,4R,5S)  
3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-nonyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S)  
3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-(1-ethyl)propyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S)  
3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-(3-methyl)butyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S)  
3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-(2-phenyl)ethyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S)  
3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-(3-phenyl)propyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S)  
3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-(1-ethyl)hexyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S)  
3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-(2-ethyl)butyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S)  
3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-[(2R)-(2-methyl-2-phenyl)ethyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S)  
3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-[(2S)-(2-methyl-2-phenyl)ethyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S)  
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and ~~prodrugs~~ esters thereof.

6. (currently amended) The compound 3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-pentyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ~~prodrug~~ ester thereof.

7. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising at least one compound ~~as defined in claim 1, but without provisos a), b), d) and e),~~ of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof:



wherein

R is a C<sub>1-16</sub> straight or branched-chain alkyl, optionally substituted by C<sub>3-7</sub>cycloalkyl, provided that the compound is not 3,4,5-piperidinetriol, 1-nonyl-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3S,4R,5S);

optionally together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, excipients and/or diluents.

8-20. (canceled)